

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-29 were originally filed and were subjected to a restriction requirement in the parent case, US Application Serial Number 09/043,629. Specifically the claims were restricted into three groups: Group I including claims 1-18 and 29; Group II including claims 19-25 and 27-28; and Group III including claim 26. Accordingly, as this divisional application is directed to the Group I claims, claims 19-28 corresponding to the Group II and Group III claims are hereby cancelled. New claims 30-46 are hereby added. Also, claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 16 have been amended, and claims 3, 8 and 9 have been canceled. Therefore, upon entry of this preliminary amendment, claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10-18 and 29-46 will be pending.

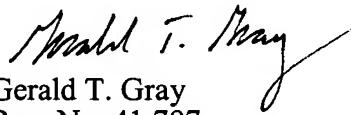
It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added herein.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,


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